

After three years playing basketball for UCONN, Rip was the 7th overall draft pick for the NBA. Rip then began his professional basketball career with the Washington Wizards. He spent three years with the Wizards and made his NBA debut scoring ten points against the Atlanta Hawks on November 2, 1999. On April 13, 2000, he registered a career-high 26 points against the Chicago Bulls. He set or tied career highs in every major statistical category except blocks in the 2000–2001 season. Then in 2001, he was acquired by the Detroit Pistons where he became one of their star players as the shooting guard. Rip has been with the Pistons for two years now and helped lead his new team to the 2004 NBA Championship with a 100–87 win over the Los Angeles Lakers in game five of the NBA Finals.

Not only is Rip Hamilton an outstanding basketball player, he is also known for giving back to his community. Each year, Rip sponsors the “Rip City Day” in Coatesville, Pennsylvania. It is a citywide celebration with food and entertainment for everyone. Rip also annually sponsors basketball camps throughout Chester County, Pennsylvania to give high school students the same opportunities he was given during his childhood.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing an outstanding citizen and athlete who exemplifies the dedication and hard work it takes to reach the pinnacle of his sport.

TRIBUTE TO WALTER JOHNSON ON  
HIS RETIREMENT AS SEC-  
RETARY-TREASURER OF THE  
SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Walter L. Johnson, a dedicated union leader and a dear friend of mine. Walter recently announced his retirement as Secretary-Treasurer of the San Francisco Labor Council and is being honored on his tremendous career and his lifelong commitment to the labor movement at a banquet on August 6th, 2004.

Born and raised in North Dakota, Walter immediately enlisted in the army to serve his country during World War II. Serving as a Combat Engineer, he saw military action in Germany and Austria. At the end of the war, Walter returned to America where he moved to San Francisco and began work as a salesman at Sears Roebuck. He joined the Department Store Employees Union Local 1100 and immediately became an active member.

Walter's passion for the union's ideals led to a meteoric rise in the union as he became a business agent for Local 1100 in 1957 and was elected as its President one year later. By 1960, Walter had been elected to the union's top position, Secretary-Treasurer, where he would remain for the next twenty-five years. Winning reelection an astonishing eleven times, Walter's continual success was the result of his continuous commitment to end discrimination in the workplace.

After twenty-five years of tireless dedication most people would be content to retire and

rest on their laurels. Not my good friend Walter, who was elected to his current position as Executive Secretary-Treasurer at the San Francisco Labor Council in 1985. As with everything he does, Walter tackled this project head on and the San Francisco Labor Council, which had just been chartered only two years prior to Walter's arrival, quickly grew in stature and importance. In fact, many of the Labor Council's great successes on behalf of San Francisco's working people can be attributed to him.

Mr. Speaker, as leader of the San Francisco Labor Council, Walter represents over 140 San Francisco unions and over 80,000 members. He has guided San Francisco's labor movement to great heights, championing a living wage for San Francisco workers, better benefits for city employees and safer working conditions. Under his leadership the Council continues to strive to broaden the city's employment opportunities and to expand the diversity throughout the Bay Area's workforce. His accomplishments include fighting for better working conditions for home care workers, efforts to bring more diversity to the San Francisco City College faculty and advocacy for more affordable housing in the city.

Walter's commitment to his community can also be illustrated through his involvement in the countless boards and committees to which he is associated. To name a few, Walter has served on the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union Advisory Board, UFCW International Foreign Affairs Committee, the Board of San Francisco Bay Area Girl Scout Council, the President's Advisory Board of San Francisco State University and is a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in South San Francisco.

Although Walter will be leaving the Labor Council, I know that his presence in the community and the foundation he has created in the San Francisco labor movement will continue. On top of his heavy workload, Walter is a dedicated family man and I am sure his wife, Jane and his children and grandchildren are looking forward to seeing more of Walter in his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in commending Walter L. Johnson for his forty years of dedication to the labor movement, his strong advocacy on behalf of the working men and women of this nation and his commitment to the betterment of his community. Walter's service and compassion toward helping his fellow working men and women is truly an example to all of us and his contribution to working America will be evident for generations to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARLENE  
DEMAIO

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to Dr. Marlene DeMaio of Edgewater, Maryland and congratulate her on receiving the Frank Brown Berry Prize in Federal Health Care for her exceptional contributions to medicine. Dr. DeMaio, who is the first female to be recognized with this high honor, has shown an outstanding commitment to our

nation's armed forces while serving in the United States Navy as a surgeon and medical researcher in body armor technology. It is with great satisfaction that I recognize Dr. DeMaio for her well-deserved award and acknowledge her many accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation today. Her service to the Navy and to the nation has been exemplary.

While researching at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, Dr. DeMaio worked tirelessly to improve body armor for our soldiers. She realized there was an important need for improving body armor when she learned from some of her Navy SEALs patients that they would remove their body armor because they found it burdensome and noisy. Her breakthroughs in body armor technology came through using more realistic models that more accurately measured the impact of various weaponry on body armor. This method of testing is responsible for the improvements in the Interceptor Body Armor in use today, which has saved countless lives and resulted in fewer chest and abdominal injuries to our nation's troops serving in Afghanistan and Iraq.

A captain in the United States Navy, Dr. DeMaio is currently serving at the U.S. Naval Academy Clinic in Annapolis, Maryland. She has received an appointment to the Bethesda National Naval Medical Center and serves as Chair of Orthopedic Surgery, Sports Medicine and Podiatry at the United States Naval Academy. In the past, she has worked as an assistant professor of surgery in the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. In addition, she has served on various medical boards and has authored significant academic papers.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Marlene DeMaio has shown a tremendous dedication to our military and diligence in the field of research medicine. Her contributions have done much for the safety and well-being of our troops, and are worthy of recognition before this body of Congress and this nation today. It is my privilege to extend to Dr. DeMaio my sincere congratulations on receiving the 2004 Frank Brown Berry Prize in Federal Healthcare, and to wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

RANCHO VALMORA: 100 YEARS OF  
SERVICE

**HON. TOM UDALL**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 21, 2004*

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the upcoming 100th anniversary of Rancho Valmora, nestled on the eastern side of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains at the juncture of the Mora River and Wolf Creek.

Rancho Valmora was originally established as a revolutionary health center for tuberculosis patients and bears a National Historic Marker for this heritage. Valmora Ranch Company was founded in 1904 by healer and visionary, Dr. William T. Brown. This tuberculosis sanatorium became nationally renowned and a bright star in the medical world as thousands of patients sought out “the cure” at Valmora. It was believed the aged canyon walls, the warm sun, the ongoing medical research and the northern New Mexico ambience provided the ingredients to heal.